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News Release

September 2, 2003

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Honolulu City Council Proposes Restructuring of Bus Fares

(HONOLULU) – The City Council proposed further amendments to Council Bill 53 that would retain the monthly pass system for several classes of riders and reduce the adult cash fare to \$1.00 from the current \$1.75. The new changes would also do away with the transfer system, which has been heavily criticized by bus drivers and passengers for widespread abuse.

The changes, if approved by the Council, would place Honolulu's bus fares on par with fares being charged in comparable U.S. cities on the West Coast. The measure will be heard by a joint panel made up of the Transportation and Budget committees on September 8, 2003 at 9:00 a.m.

Council Transportation Committee Chair Nestor Garcia said the goal is to restore bus service that was cut in June and to pre-empt the next round of planned cuts, which have been delayed for a month by Mayor Jeremy Harris. "We cannot lose sight of the fact that so many people depend on the bus for their basic transportation. But we must also keep in mind that even with these increases, bus service in this city is heavily subsidized by property taxpayers and motorists."

Budget Committee Chair Ann Kobayashi echoed Garcia's sentiment that "whatever restructuring we do with the fare system, the added revenues must be applied to restoring bus service. And we are very mindful of the fact that many of our most bus-dependent riders really cannot afford increases in bus fares."

A copy of the proposed fares as well as a chart of comparable fares charged in other cities is attached.

Copies of the proposed amendments are available at the City Clerk's Committee Services office.

(more)

NEWS RELEASE

Bus Fares Measure Amended to Retain Passes, Lower Cash Fares

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Written testimony will be accepted for the meeting. Interested person may fax testimony to 527-5733; or mail it to Honolulu City Council, 530 South King Street, Room 202, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. Mark it to the attention of Councilmembers Nestor Garcia and Ann Kobayashi.

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COMPARISON OF BUS FARES EFFECTIVE 9/1/03
Honolulu, San Francisco, Seattle, Las Vegas, San Diego, Los Angeles

	Honolulu (Current)	Honolulu (Proposed CD 1)	San Francisco	Seattle	Las Vegas	San Diego	Los Angeles
Operator	Oahu Transit Services (OTS)	Oahu Transit Services (OTS)	SF Municipal Railway (MUNI) Effective 9/1/03	King County Metro Transit	Clark County Citizens Area Transit (CAT)	SD Metropolitan Transit System (MTS)	LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO)
Adult Cash Fare (Regular Service)	\$1.75 Ages 18-64	\$1.00	\$1.25 Ages 18-64	\$1.25 off peak	\$1.25 all routes except Las Vegas Strip & Mail Circuit	\$1.50 North County Transit District (NCTD) routes \$2.25 San Diego Transit Corp. (SDTC) routes	\$1.35 base \$.75 night
Adult Monthly Pass (Regular Service)	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$45.00	\$45.00 off peak	\$30.00 Las Vegas Strip & Mail Circuit	\$46.00 NCTD \$56.00 SDTC	\$42.00 plus \$15 per freeway express zone
Adult Annual Pass (Regular Service)	\$360.00	None	None	\$495.00 off peak	None	None	None
Youth Cash Fare (Regular Service)	\$.75 Ages 5-17	\$.75	\$.35 Ages 5-17	\$.50 Ages 6-17	\$.60 all routes except Las Vegas Strip & Mail Circuit \$1.00 Las Vegas Strip & Mail Circuit	None, same as adult	None, same as adult
Youth Monthly Pass	\$13.50	\$20.00 (equivalent to \$.50 per ride)	\$10.00 Ages 5-17	\$18.00 Ages 6-17	\$15.00 Ages 6-17	\$28.00 Ages 6-18	\$20.00 K-12 \$30.00 College
Youth Annual Pass (Regular Service)	\$150.00	None	None	None	None	None	None

COMPARISON OF BUS FARES EFFECTIVE 9/1/03
Honolulu, San Francisco, Seattle, Las Vegas, San Diego, Los Angeles

	Honolulu (Current)	Honolulu (Proposed CD 1)	San Francisco	Seattle	Las Vegas	San Diego	Los Angeles
Express Bus Cash Fare	None	Adult & Youth \$2.00 or \$1.00 additional with proof of monthly pass	None	\$1.50 one zone peak \$2.00 two zone peak	None	Adult & Youth \$2.50 to \$4.00 Senior / Disabled / Medicare \$1.00	Adult & Youth Base fare plus \$1.85 (1 zone) \$2.35 (2 zones) \$2.85 (3 zones) \$3.35 (4 zones)
		Senior / Disabled / Medicare \$1.00 or \$.50 additional with proof of monthly pass					Senior / Disabled / Medicare Base fare plus \$.70 (1 zone) \$.95 (2 zones) \$1.20 (3 zones) \$1.45 (4 zones)
Express Bus Monthly Pass	None	Adult \$80.00 Youth \$60.00 Senior / Disabled / Medicare \$40.00	None	Adult \$54.00 one zone peak \$72.00 two zone peak	None	Adult \$64.00 to \$84.00 Youth \$28.00 Senior / Disabled / Medicare \$14.00	Adult & Youth \$58.00 plus \$15.00 per freeway express zone Senior / Disabled / Medicare \$29.00 no zone fares
Express Bus Annual Pass	None	None	None	Adult \$594.00 one zone peak \$792.00 two zone peak	None	None	None
Child Cash Fare	\$.50 Ages 0-4	\$.25 (Free when accompanied by adult)	Free Ages 0-4	Free Ages 0-5	Free Ages 0-5	Free Ages 0-5	Free Ages 0-5
Child Pass	\$12.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

COMPARISON OF BUS FARES EFFECTIVE 9/1/03
Honolulu, San Francisco, Seattle, Las Vegas, San Diego, Los Angeles

	Honolulu (Current)	Honolulu (Proposed CD 1)	San Francisco	Seattle	Las Vegas	San Diego	Los Angeles
Disabled Cash Fare (Regular Service)	\$.75	\$.50	\$.35	\$.25 off peak \$.50 peak	\$.60 all routes except Las Vegas Strip & Mail Circuit \$1.00 Las Vegas Strip & Mail Circuit	\$1.00	\$.45 base \$.35 night
Disabled Monthly Pass	N/A	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$5.50	\$15.00	\$14.00	\$12.00
Disabled Annual/Biennial Pass	\$25.00 every other year	\$60.00	None	\$66.00	None	None	None
Senior Cash Fare (Regular Service)	\$.75	\$.50	\$.35 (Age 65+)	\$.25 off peak \$.50 peak (Age 65+)	\$.60 (Age 62+) all routes except Las Vegas Strip & Mail Circuit \$1.00 Las Vegas Strip & Mail Circuit	\$1.00 (Age 60+)	\$.45 base \$.35 night (Age 62+)
Senior Monthly Pass	None	\$5.00 (equivalent to \$.125 per ride)	\$10.00	\$5.50	\$15.00	\$14.00	\$12.00
Senior Annual/Biennial Pass	\$25.00 every other year (equivalent to \$.04 per ride)	\$60.00 annual per ride)	None	\$66.00 annual	None	None	None
Senior/Reduced Fare ID	\$6.00 every 4 years	\$10.00 every 2 years	N/A, can use any valid ID.	\$3.00 for Regional Reduced Fare Permit	Reduced Fare ID needed for Seniors, Youths, Disabled. Card mailed within two weeks, if eligible Cost? \$	MTS Senior/Disabled ID \$6.00. NCTD Senior/Disabled ID is free. Replacement cards can be purchased for a fee of \$5.00.	\$2.00 application fee \$5.00 if lost or stolen

COMPARISON OF BUS FARES EFFECTIVE 9/1/03
Honolulu, San Francisco, Seattle, Las Vegas, San Diego, Los Angeles

	Honolulu (Current)	Honolulu (Proposed CND 1)	San Francisco	Seattle	Las Vegas	San Diego	Los Angeles
Stadium Express	\$3.00 each way	\$3.00 each way	\$6.00 adult round trip \$4.00 youth, senior, disabled round trip \$3.00 round trip with Muni Pass	\$3.00 each way	None?	Adults \$6.00 round trip \$3.00 one way Youths (0-12) \$3.00 round trip \$1.50 one way	None?
Transfers	Free	No transfers allowed.	Issued when the fare is paid. Valid for travel on any Muni vehicle for at least 90 minutes but for no more than two hours, from the time of issue.	Valid on any Metro bus or the Waterfront Streetcar for about one hour after they are issued.	Valid for 120 minutes from the time they are issued, and can only be used to complete a one-way trip.	Most free. Good for 2 hours from the time of issue in one continuous direction on all \$1.75 and \$2.25 routes without upgrade; \$0.25 and \$0.50 upgrades must be paid on express and premium service routes	Metro Bus passengers may purchase a transfer for \$.25 (\$.10 Senior / Disabled / Medicare) with payment of fare at time of boarding. One hour to complete transfers
Visitor/Local Transit Passports	\$20.00 (4 days)	\$20.00 (4 days)	\$9.00 (1 day) \$15.00 (3 days) \$20.00 (7 days)	\$5.00 (1 day)	None?	\$5.00 (1 day) \$9.00 (2 days) \$12.00 (3 days) \$15.00 (4 days)	\$11.00 weekly \$21.00 semi-monthly